

Description

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING POSITION INFORMATION ON A DIGITAL MAP

MIM 5 This patent application is a continuation of U.S. Serial
No. 10/169,639 filed July 3, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,662,101 which is
a 371 of PCT/JP02/00601 filed January 28, 2002.

<Technical Field>

The present invention relates to a method for transmitting
position information on a digital map and apparatus for implementing
the method, and in particular to a method and apparatus for accurately
10 transmitting position information on a digital map by using only
a small amount of data.

<Background of the Invention>

In recent years, the number of vehicles that have on-board
15 navigation apparatus has been increasing rapidly. The on-board
navigation apparatus maintains a digital map database and is capable
of displaying traffic congestion and traffic accident positions
on the map based on traffic congestion information and traffic
accident information provided by a traffic information center as
20 well as performing a route search using conditions including the
aforementioned information.

In Japan, digital map databases are prepared by several
companies. The problem is that map data contains errors due to
the different base maps and digitizing technologies. The error